



## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Wilfred H. Nelson et al. GROUP: 1641  
SERIAL NO: 08/818,534 EXAMINER: J. Hines  
FILED: 03/14/97  
FOR: DIRECT DETECTION OF BACTERIA-ANTIBODY  
COMPLEXES VIA UV RESONANCE RAMAN  
SPECTROSCOPY

# 13/C  
CS not  
9/29/99

Assistant Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the following claim:

- 1 9. (Amended) A method for the detecting the presence of a specific microorganism in a  
2 sample, said microorganism having a characteristic resonance enhanced Raman backscattered  
3 energy spectrum produced by irradiating nucleic acids in said microorganisms at a wavelength  
4 between 242-257 nm, comprising:  
5 (a) contacting said sample with a medium comprising solid phase  
6 immobilized antibodies which specifically bind to a characteristic cell surface antigen on said  
7 microorganism to form an antigen-antibody complex, thereby immobilizing said  
8 microorganism on said solid phase;  
9 (b) irradiating the solid phase of step (a) with a laser light of 242-257 nm to  
10 produce a resonance enhanced Raman backscattered energy spectrum; and

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sub  
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